



The Greensand Trust

The Greensand Trust
Working Woodlands Centre
Maulden Wood
Haynes West End
Bedfordshire
MK45 3UZ
Tel: 01234 743666
www.greensandtrust.org

Land Use Consultants
250 Waterloo Road
London

Re: Valued Landscape Policy review in Milton Keynes

Dear Sir/Madam,

Since our last letter, we have been made aware of the Valued Landscapes Policy Review paper prepared by yourselves in December 2022. In addition to our previous comments, we have the following observations to make now that we have reviewed the aforementioned document.

We note the recommendations are for the new local landscape designations to be based on both the 1999 LDA study and the 2022 landscape character assessment.

Having reviewed extracts of the 1999 LDA, we were pleased to see areas of Bow Brickhill were included in the 'Brickhills Ridge' area, as this settlement contributes strongly to local landscape distinctiveness. However, the 2022 landscape character area does not include areas of Bow Brickhill and the surrounding countryside. We would strongly urge you to consider inclusion of the wider Bow Brickhill area specified in our previous response into any new local landscape designation. This area contributes strongly to the character of the wooded Greensand Ridge, primarily through the density of sandstone structures found throughout the village. Furthermore, the strong agricultural feel of the surrounding countryside provides a buffer and a more gradual transition from a suburban landscape to that of the Ridge. Retaining this agricultural character is vital in protecting the wider setting of the Greensand Ridge.

We support your recommendations to include open public consultations as part of the local landscape designation process. Equally, the description that local landscapes are not just about the quality of the landscape itself, but also its wider role in the setting of Milton Keynes is key for the Greensand Ridge as a wooded backdrop.

Please keep us informed of any further developments regarding local landscape designation in Milton Keynes.

Yours faithfully,



Jon Balaam

Director of Development
The Greensand Trust

Resources

Farmer, A., *Secrets of the Sands: Landscape Character Assessment*, (Alison Farmer Associates: 2016)

Farmer, A., *Historic Environment Characterisation*, (Alison Farmer Associates: 2016)

Farmer, A., *Parklands Audit*, (Alison Farmer Associates: 2016)

Garrand, C., *Sandstone Structures Audit*, (Chris Garrand Consultancy: 2015)

Central Bedfordshire Landscape Character Assessment, (Land Use Consultants: 2015)